

Dante, now 81 years old and living in Clearwater, Florida, served in the House for 38 years, from 1954 through his retirement in 1992, representing South Florida with dignity, reverence for his office, and the rare ability to please all the members of his diverse constituency. He was one of the most respected Members during the time he served in Congress, and I am pleased to have had the opportunity to work with him and to learn from him.

Known as an outstanding legislator and negotiator, Dante fine-tuned his interest in foreign affairs with his particular focus on Latin America and the Caribbean. He conceived of the idea for the North/South Center, a scholarly institution for the free exchange of views to promote understanding, cooperation and democracy in the region. This idea became reality in 1990. Importantly, ahead of his time, Dante had the clairvoyance to see the increased interdependence of the two hemispheres, and that trend's connection with the City of Miami.

The North/South Center at the University of Miami has turned Fascell's ideas into reality. The school plays an invaluable role in helping the Administration and federal agencies conduct American public policy, and is called upon frequently to present its views. Moreover, it provides research, public outreach, and cooperative study opportunities on a variety of timely issues, as well as education and training programs for scholars and others throughout the Western Hemisphere.

I applaud the decision of the University of Miami to rename the North/South Center in honor of Dante B. Fascell. Its new name will ensure that the contributions of this fine public servant to the common good of South Floridians, and the nation, will always be at the forefront of our minds.

ALL-USA TEACHERS FROM
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HONORED

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 1998

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate five teachers from Columbus, Georgia, who have been selected from over 600 of their colleagues to be honored for their outstanding commitment to our children.

Coleen Cotton, Deborah Greene, James Pippin, and Amy Willis of Arnold Middle School are among the twenty-three teachers named to the "USA Today's All-USA Teacher Team." Nicknamed the "Dream Team," the four have worked together to integrate their school subjects (language arts, science, social studies, and math) in order to make learning relevant for their students. The symbol of their creation is a ball of yarn 37.5 feet in diameter.

An example of the yarn's usefulness as a learning tool was described in yesterday's USA Today. "The project has snowballed since the yarn ball was started seven years ago. Last year, Amy Willis' math classes calculated the mathematical qualities of the ball, predicted that year's expansion and estimated its weight. Debbie Greene's science classes learned about yarn's role in textiles, a Columbus industry. Jim Pippin's social studies classes investigated similar large balls of yarn and

twine. And Coleen Cotton's reading classes read some 'yarns.'"

I also extend my congratulations to Nan Pate of Brookstone School in Columbus on being awarded with an "All-USA Honorable Mention."

These five teachers from Columbus, Georgia, represent the kind of devotion and ingenuity that is needed to take our country and our children into the 21st century. It is these teachers, and others like them, who will strive to make our education system the best in the world. I thank them for their commitment, and I congratulate them on their excellence.

TRIBUTE TO THE POVERELLO
HOUSE

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 1998

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Poverello House on the occasion of its 25 year Silver Anniversary. The Poverello House is known throughout the Central Valley for its charitable work.

The Poverello House was started in 1973 when Fresno newcomer Mike McGavin began feeding 30 street people out of a van in Fresno's Chinatown. Today the Poverello House serves over 1000 meals a day at its downtown building. The program also distributes 65,000 meals a year to local churches. Mr. McGavin's vocation has grown beyond feeding the hungry. Now the uninsured receive free medical and dental care. In addition, recovering alcoholics and drug addicts live at Poverello House and homeless men spend the day there.

Mike McGavin's work with the poor began in the late 1960s in San Francisco, where he stumbled onto a coffee shop for the homeless. At the time he was a customer. With the help of the Franciscan priest who ran the program McGavin began volunteering. McGavin wanted to atone for the trouble he had caused as a teen in the Los Angeles gang and as a drug addict in San Francisco. Mike moved to Fresno and it is here that he began feeding the homeless of Chinatown. In 1981 a business man donated \$60,000 that went towards the purchase of buying a building in Chinatown. A \$1.3 million renovation doubled the building in 1992. The larger building now houses a resident program which allows 28 men to live at the house for a period of six months. In addition five men may stay at a halfway house northwest Fresno for as long as two years.

Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor Mike McGavin and the Poverello House for 25 years of service to the community. Mr. McGavin has turned the atonement for his past into one of the finest charitable institutions in Fresno. I urge all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing Mike McGavin and the Poverello House many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN J. SCHIFF

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 1998

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, on October 14, the Greater Cincinnati area lost one of its finest community and business leaders. John J. Schiff, the founder of Cincinnati Financial Corporation, passed away at the age of 82. A devoted family man, he was married to Mary Reid Schiff for 50 years and had three children. His business achievements and philanthropic acts left a lasting impression on everyone who knew him, on the insurance industry, and on the entire Cincinnati community.

Mr. Schiff epitomized the American dream and embodied the idea that with dedication and hard work, anything is possible. What began as a small business which employed only Mr. Schiff and an assistant, grew into a thriving company of 2,700 employees with yearly earnings of \$300 million.

Mr. Schiff was born in Cincinnati in 1916 and graduated from Ohio State University in 1938. After returning home from valiantly serving his country in the Navy during World War II, he founded his own company, the John J. Schiff Agency. It was then that he began to visualize a better, stronger, company.

With personal relationships, an unwavering work ethic, and intense loyalty serving as the foundation, he and his brother Robert, along with two other investors, formed the Cincinnati Insurance Company. The company focused on selecting the best agents to represent the company, and provided them with the highest level of service and support. He was dedicated to making life better for his associates, agents, community, policy holders, investors, and friends.

Mr. Schiff's business savvy was second only to his unwavering philanthropic efforts to better his community. He was dedicated to civic, educational, and artistic endeavors. Many organizations benefited from his zeal, including: the Museum Association, Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Music Hall Association, the 1788 Club, Deaconess Hospital, the Salvation Army, and Shiloh Community Methodist Church, just to name a few. He was very active with his Alma Mater, Ohio State. He was recognized as a Great Cincinnati by the Chamber of Commerce, Man of the Year by the Insurance Board, and was presented the Founders' Day award by Xavier University, where he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree.

Mr. Schiff's success is proof positive to all of us that with hard work, dedication and a strong will to succeed we can attain almost any goal we strive for.

TRIBUTE TO OWNER-OPERATED
INDEPENDENT DRIVER ASSOCIATION
AND PRESIDENT JIM JOHNSTON

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 1998

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, the Owner-Operator Independent Driver Association (OIDA)